

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008

Dear Parent,

This half term has been busy with a great range of activities at Vinehall and I hope that you have enjoyed reading about these in 'Vinelines', our weekly e-newsletter.

### **Inspection**

Our team of inspectors from the Independent Schools Inspectorate were exceptionally happy with us and we look forward to receiving their written report which will be circulated to all parents when it is published. I am sure that it will give you great pride and confidence in your school. In the meantime, our Ofsted boarding inspection report has been published and is enclosed with this letter for your information. I think that it is of interest for all parents, not just boarding parents, because it describes so well our positive and caring ethos. I hope that you will enjoy reading it and if you do not wish to keep your copy you might return it to the school office.

### **Scholarships**

The scholarship season has begun and at the time of writing we are particularly proud of our pupils' achievements. Academic scholarships are yet to come but the following Vinehall pupils have achieved:

Andrew Everall	major music scholarship to Hurstpierpoint College
Claire Macfadyen	major music scholarship to Sevenoaks School
Joshua Huntington-Rainey	music exhibition to Sherborne
Edward Rogers	music scholarship to Eastbourne College
Charles Williamson	art scholarship to Eastbourne College
Charles Killick	art exhibition to Brighton College
Felix Wells	art exhibition to St Bede's The Dicker
Annie Caffyn	drama exhibition to Benenden School
Robert Flett	sport exhibition to Eastbourne College

Other scholarship candidates have been commended on their hard work, talent and achievements and although they have not been awarded scholarships they are very worthy of mention: William Furlong (sports, to Tonbridge), Rebecca Ingrouille (art, to St Leonards-Mayfield), Lilian Hazael (music and art, to St Leonards-Mayfield), Dominic York (art, to Eastbourne College). There are more results in the pipeline, which will be announced in due course.

Most Year 8 children are sitting mock CE and scholarship exams in the week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> February and this is a very important time for Year 8 pupils.

### **Staff News**

Sister Victoria, our new School Nurse, has begun and thanks everyone for a warm welcome to Vinehall. We are very pleased that Sister Kate is also with us for several hours each week. They have

asked me to request that parents notify the school immediately if their children come into contact with measles, shingles or chickenpox.

### **Boarding**

Following a very successful Year 7 taster boarding week, we are taking bookings for boarding in the future. Please remember that if your child comes in to board in Year 8 it must be for the full year, not just the Lent and/or Summer term.

### **Calendar Events**

Please check your calendar for details of the many events in the calendar for the remainder of the term. There is also a link to the calendar on the website. On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February there is a Brass Evening in the theatre and on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> a number of children will be confirmed in a special service at Mountfield Church. Year 7 pupils depart on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March for their week's stay at Le Château de la Baudonnière in France This exciting trip offers the children a cultural, historical, linguistic and gastronomic experience of France and the French way of life. The non-uniform day on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March is in aid of NCH in the Prep School and The Fellowship of St Nicholas in the Pre-Prep. The dressing up theme is: "*What I want to be when I grow up*". The Year 6 plays will be on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and your tickets will be sent out next week – please apply to the office if you have not already done so. Term ends at lunchtime on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

Pre-Prep parents will have received the Nits and Bits newsletter with news and dates relevant to Pre-Prep.

Our 'Infoline' (01580 883058) carries messages about matches and trips to help in planning your travels to support your children. Please do call the line before setting off to support a match in case there have been changes to the programme.

Our Lenten friend scheme is underway. This is a special project in the Prep School allowing pupils to support each other anonymously throughout Lent. The children are encouraged to be kind and send messages to their Lenten friend right up until the end of term.

### **Future Schools**

If your child is in Year 6 and you have not yet registered him or her for a school at 13+, please make it a matter of urgency as lists do fill up quickly at this stage. Please make an appointment with Mrs Redstone if you would like to discuss the options. If you change your mind regarding the destination of your child at 13, please inform us as soon as possible.

### **Anniversary Celebrations**

Bookings are already being taken for the Vinehall Vintage Ball to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate the school's seventieth anniversary. If you wish to reserve tickets or whole tables, please contact Deborah Jarrett-Potts on 01435 830116 or [djj@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:djj@tinyworld.co.uk).

Yours sincerely

Julie Robinson  
Head